

District of Columbia on their compliance with the requirements of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. In every single year since then, the District's public school system has failed to meet the requirements of the law.

To put this in plain language, the majority wants to return students who have found educational choices that work for them to a failing system. And they are couching this policy in civil rights terms. That is shameful.

The majority will presumably pass this bill, but I urge the Senate to reject this attempt to hide a special interest giveaway behind civil rights language. I urge a "no" vote on this bill.

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Chairman, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. BISHOP), the chairman of the Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Subcommittee and a member of the Financial Services and General Government Subcommittee.

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Chairman, I rise in strong support of the fiscal year 2020 Financial Services and General Government Appropriations Act.

The legislation before the House today is vitally important to ensuring the Federal Government and the U.S. economy can work for the American people. This bill safeguards our financial system and provides a fair playing field for our taxpayers. It funds those agencies that cultivate a vibrant and competitive telecommunications system that support new businesses and that make sure our consumers are safe from dangerous and defective products.

Perhaps more importantly, this bill helps protect the integrity of our elections. As has been illustrated over the last few years, it is imperative that we provide the States with the resources to ensure the sanctity of our democratic institution. This bill includes \$600 million in grant funding for election security grants and, additionally, \$16.2 million is included for the Election Assistance Commission operating expenses, an increase of \$7 million above the 2019 enacted level.

I am also pleased that this legislation includes a total of \$2.6 billion for Taxpayer Services, which provides assistance to the elderly and low-income taxpayers to help navigate our complex Tax Code, as well as increases in funding to address the growing tax gap.

Further, the legislation rejects the administration's elimination of the Community Development Financial Institutions Fund, a successful program that leverages public-private investment to revitalize and provide jobs to distressed rural and urban communities.

This bill also further embodies our democratic mode of government by supporting home rule for the District of Columbia.

Finally, I thank Chairman QUIGLEY for rejecting the administration's misguided plan to merge the GSA and

OPM. The GSA manages our Federal properties, while OPM acts as the chief human resources agency for our Federal workforce.

The administration's unilateral proposal to merge these two agencies without any analysis of cost, rationale, or risk would disrupt both agencies without contributing to their mission. It would potentially politicize our Federal career employees and create confusion and bureaucracy for no discernable reason.

To close, I would like to thank full Committee Chairwoman LOWEY, Ranking Member GRANGER, Subcommittee Chairman QUIGLEY, and Ranking Member GRAVES for their work on this bill.

As a member of the House Financial Services and General Government Appropriations Subcommittee, I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support this legislation.

Mr. GRAVES of Georgia. Mr. Chair, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Chairman, I move that the Committee do now rise.

The motion was agreed to.

Accordingly, the Committee rose; and the Speaker pro tempore (Mrs. TORRES of California) having assumed the chair, Mr. KEATING, Chair of the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union, reported that that Committee, having had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3055) making appropriations for the Departments of Commerce and Justice, Science, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020, and for other purposes, had come to no resolution thereon.

#### ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

Cheryl L. Johnson, Clerk of the House, reported and found truly enrolled a bill of the House of the following title, which was thereupon signed by the Speaker:

H.R. 559. An act to amend section 6 of the Joint Resolution entitled "A Joint Resolution to approve the Covenant To Establish a Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands in Political Union with the United States of America, and for other purposes".

#### FINANCIAL SERVICES AND GENERAL GOVERNMENT APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2020

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 460 and rule XVIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the further consideration of the bill, H.R. 3351.

Will the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. KEATING) kindly resume the chair.

□ 1528

#### IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly, the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the further consideration of the bill (H.R. 3351) making appropriations for finan-

cial services and general government for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020, and for other purposes, with Mr. KEATING in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The CHAIR. When the Committee of the Whole rose earlier today, 31 minutes remained in general debate.

The gentleman from Illinois (Mr. QUIGLEY) has 13½ minutes remaining. The gentleman from Georgia (Mr. GRAVES) has 17½ minutes remaining.

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Chairman, I yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. CARTWRIGHT), a member of the Financial Services and General Government Subcommittee.

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Mr. Chairman, as a member of the subcommittee, I rise today to discuss the importance of the Financial Services and General Government bill, FSGG.

First, I would like to thank Chairman QUIGLEY for his leadership on the subcommittee and for his work on the bill. I would also like to thank Ranking Member GRAVES for all that he has done to ensure this bill receives its proper airing and reaches the floor and for his support on several provisions in the bill.

The FSGG bill supports a broad range of functions and services in both the executive and judicial branches that are essential to the operation of our Federal Government. The FSGG bill supports programs that assist and protect the public, such as shielding consumers from defective and dangerous products, assisting small businesses, investing in distressed communities, and ensuring the integrity of Federal elections. This bill includes significant funding to support these critical functions.

□ 1530

One especially important provision the workers in my district appreciate is the increase in the Federal civilian pay by 3.1 percent in FY 2020. This pay increase means so much to the hard-working men and women in our Nation who struggle to make ends meet while serving our Nation. For far too long, Federal workers have been short-changed by the work they do, and their wages have not kept up with the changes in our country's cost of living.

Importantly, this FSGG bill is also about improving our economy. From increased funding for the IRS to assist taxpayers and bolster enforcement, to supporting the Small Business Administration to help small businesses develop and expand throughout the country, this bill will make our economy stronger for everyday Americans.

Mr. Chairman, another important program I would like to highlight in the bill is the funding for the Office of National Drug Control Policy. My home State of Pennsylvania, like so many others across the Nation, has suffered severely from the effects of the opioid crisis. To help combat this crisis, the ONDCP receives \$100.5 million for the Drug-Free Communities